



Aiming for Excellence

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## General Manager Report

The 2022-23 season is almost over and we had a season that leaves many positive memories in my mind. Unfortunately, also have some not-so-good memories with the high number of weather-related cancelations, but that is the risk that we are facing and will face in the future as an outdoor sport that relies on mother nature to cooperate. During the events that were held, it was great to see the large number of eco-aim category athletes. This makes me hopeful that we can grow the sport from the bottom up and be able to follow the long-term development plan that allows our athletes to grow and develop through the different stages.

I would like to thank all organizers of our Calforex Cup events as they all put tremendous work into the events, no matter if they were held or canceled.

Alberta also welcomed athletes from Canada, the US, and Scandinavia during the 2023 Arctic Winter Games in the Wood Buffalo Region and Fort McMurray and it was great to see the Games celebrate sport, social exchange, and cultures.

Another key event was the 2023 Canada Winter Games in PEI. After being the host province in 2019, our team continued with great performances and every athlete came back from the Atlantic province with at least 1 medal.

The race season was finished off at the National Championships in Quebec, where Alberta could one more time win the provincial and club ranking (Foothills Nordic Ski Club) and only just missed a total of 50 medals.

Congratulations to all athletes and coaches who had a successful 2022-23 season and a huge THANK YOU to all the volunteers who have helped run training sessions, events, and other programs throughout the season.

From an administrative side, we made good progress in streamlining processes. Making our sport more inclusive and building good relationships with partners in the para-biathlon/sports community as well as different indigenous communities in which we introduced our sport was another big focus for us and we are looking forward to continuing and increasing our involvement in these areas.

The Biathlon Alberta Training Centre (BATC) went through a significant change. Head Coach Matthias Ahrens decided to move back to Germany, after calling Canmore for more than 30 years his home. Our Assistant Coach, Helene



Jorgensen left us after only one season as she was offered a position as the Senior National Team's Assistant Coach. Those changes also offer great opportunities and Biathlon Alberta is lucky that we could hire Rachel Koroscil as our new Head Coach. Rachel is well established in the biathlon community and called Canmore already home, as the former biathlon program coach for the Canmore Nordic Ski Club. Rachel is being supported by our new Assistant Coach, Katya Dittrich, who came to the BATC from Foothills Nordic where she coached before. We are looking forward to seeing our BATC athletes starting into the new season and hope to see many of them on the different international tours this winter.

The 2023-24 season will be another busy season. Besides our Calforex Cup events are we preparing to have events at the 2024 Alberta Winter Games in Grande Prairie, send a team to the 2024 Arctic Winter Games in Alaska and of course welcome all Canadian biathletes in Hinton to the 2024 National Championships. The event that will likely draw the most attention to our province will be the final races of the 2023-24 World Cup which will be held at the Canmore Nordic Centre.

I would like to thank everyone for their help and support during the 2022-23 season and I am looking forward to connecting with many of you during the 2023-24 season!

All the best,



Elmar Heger  
General Manager  
Biathlon Alberta

